

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing Web services comprising the steps of:

registering a Web service with a service registry;

conveying the Web service to a service provider;

installing the Web service within a service environment;

receiving a request for the Web service from a service user, wherein the user has selected the Web service from the service registry, wherein said request is received within an application server disposed within an application environment, and wherein said application environment is disposed within a different network space than said service environment;

~~executing a servlet within the application environment~~ to establish a communication pathway between the application server and a gateway;

conveying service-initiating information to the gateway, the service-initiating information specifying the requested Web service;

initiating a component within said gateway that is specific to the Web service;

accessing said requested Web service across the gateway by utilizing the component; and

conveying information from the Web service via the gateway to the application server; and

transporting service data for said Web service from the application server disposed in said application environment to the service user.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said application environment is an open Internet environment, and wherein said service environment is at least one of a trusted network environment and a secure network environment.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said accessing step further comprises the step[[s]] of:

~~initiating a component within said gateway that is specific to said Web service;~~
~~and,~~

initiating a component within said gateway that is applicable to multiple Web services.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, said accessing step further comprises the step of:

conveying information between the gateway and the application environment using a Common Request Broker Architecture.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

responsive to receiving the request for the Web service, executing at least one Java servlet within said application environment that initiates said accessing step.

7-25. (Cancelled).

26. (New) A system for providing Web services comprising:

a service registry for registering a Web service;

a service environment within which the Web service is installed;

an application server configured to distribute said Web service to a service user upon receiving a request from the service user, where the user has selected the Web service from the service registry, wherein said application server is disposed within an application environment, and wherein the application environment is disposed within a different network space than said service environment; and

a gateway between said application server and the service environment for accessing the requested Web service installed within the service environment and for conveying information from the Web service to the application server, wherein the gateway further comprises a function specific component configured for the Web service.

27. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein said Web service is associated with a Web Service Definition Language definition.

28. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein said application server further comprises an application engine configured to execute modular server-side applications.

29. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein said application server further comprises a component engine configured to provide interface routines for the applications of said application engine.

30. (New) The system of claim 26, further comprising:

a communication link for exchanging Web service data between said gateway and said application server, wherein said communication link utilizes a Common Object Request Broker Architecture.

31. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein said gateway further comprises:
a service component configured for a plurality of Web services.

32. (New) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

- registering a Web service with a service registry;
- conveying the Web service to a service provider;
- installing the Web service within a service environment;
- receiving a request for the Web service from a service user, wherein the user has selected the Web service from the service registry, wherein said request is received within an application server disposed within an application environment, and wherein said application environment is disposed within a different network space than said service environment;
- executing a servlet to establish a communication pathway between the application server and a gateway;
- conveying service-initiating information to the gateway, the service-initiating information specifying the requested Web service;
- initiating a component within said gateway that is specific to the Web service;
- accessing said requested Web service across the gateway by utilizing the component;
- conveying information from the Web service via the gateway to the application server; and
- transporting service data for said Web service from the application server disposed in said application environment to the service user.

33. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 32, wherein said application

environment is an open Internet environment, and wherein said service environment is at least one of a trusted network environment and a secure network environment.

34 (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 32, wherein said accessing step further comprises the step of:

initiating a component within said gateway that is applicable to multiple Web services.

35. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 32, said accessing step further comprises the step of:

conveying information between the gateway and the application environment using a Common Request Broker Architecture.

36. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 32, further comprising the step of:
responsive to receiving the request for the Web service, executing at least one Java servlet within said application environment that initiates said accessing step.

37. (New) A system for providing Web services comprising the steps of:
means for registering a Web service with a service registry;
means for conveying the Web service to a service provider;
means for installing the Web service within a service environment;
means for receiving a request for the Web service from a service user, wherein the user has selected the Web service from the service registry, wherein said request is received within an application server disposed within an application environment, and wherein said application environment is disposed within a different network space than said service environment;

means for executing a servlet to establish a communication pathway between the

application server and a gateway;

means for conveying to the gateway service-initiating information specifying the requested Web service;

means for initiating a component within said gateway that is specific to the Web service;

means for accessing said requested Web service across the gateway by utilizing the component;

means for conveying information from the Web service via the gateway to the application server; and

means for transporting service data for said Web service between the application server disposed in said application environment and the service user.

38. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said gateway is a Parlay gateway.

39. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein said gateway is a Parlay gateway.

40. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 32, wherein said gateway is a Parlay gateway.

41. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the servlet is executed within the application environment.